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General and complete disarmament

Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum*

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* This information was received after the submission of the main report.

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Jordan

[Original: Arabic]
[25 August 2010]

1. The General Assembly resolution on conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels promotes peace and security at the regional and international levels.

2. States which manufacture and maintain large arsenals of conventional arms have a responsibility to control such arms, and can make thereby an effective reduction in their number and strengthen agreements concerning regional security.

3. It is important that conventional arms control measures respect the right of States to possess arms in order to guarantee their own security and that no distinction should be made between States in that regard.

4. The principle of equal security for all must be the basis on which conventional arms control measures are taken. The security of any State represents a red line, and is the legitimate right of every State. The concept of State security must be the same for all States: the security of one State cannot be more important than that of another State.

5. In order to ensure the success of arms measures at the regional and subregional levels, it is important to consider and address the reasons for an arms race. The fact that one regional power is heavily armed will prompt the other States of the region to acquire arms in order to maintain strategic balance in respect of conventional arms. It is therefore essential to focus on resolving international conflicts and, in particular, the Arab-Israeli conflict, in order to prevent an arms race in the region.

6. Jordan has consistently affirmed its respect for the principles set forth in United Nations instruments relating to arms, sovereignty and the equality of States and the right of States to own and acquire conventional arms for the purposes of legitimate self-defence.

7. Jordan is committed to United Nations resolutions and has signed numerous international agreements and conventions relating to conventional and other arms. It shares the international community's concerns in respect of the issue.

Nicaragua

[Original: Spanish]
[11 August 2010]

The Central American Democratic Security Model is based on the supremacy and consolidation of the power of civil society, a reasonable balance of forces, the security of individuals and their property, the elimination of poverty and extreme poverty, the promotion of sustainable development, protection of the environment, and the eradication of violence, corruption, impunity, terrorism, and drug and arms trafficking. In addition, the Central American Democratic Security Model will increasingly channel its resources into social investment.

The Central American Democratic Security Model is governed by the following principles:

(a) Sovereign equality among States and legal security in their relations;

(b) The peaceful settlement of disputes, renouncing the threat or use of force as a means of resolving their differences. States shall refrain from an action which might aggravate conflicts or hinder the settlement of disputes by peaceful means;

(c) Renunciation of the threat or use of force against the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of any State of the region which is a signatory of the Treaty;

(d) Self-determination of Central America, whereby the signatory States of the Treaty shall define their own regional strategy for sustainable development and international cooperation;

(e) Solidarity and security of the Central American peoples and Governments in the joint prevention and solution of common problems in this regard;

(f) Prohibition of the use of a territory to carry out attacks against other States, as a refuge for irregular forces or for the establishment of organized crime;

(g) The democratic security of each of the signatory States of the Treaty is closely linked with regional security. Therefore, no State shall strengthen its own security to the detriment of the security of the others;

(h) Collective and united defence, in accordance with the respective constitutional norms and the international treaties in force, in the event of armed aggression by a State situated outside the region against the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of a Central American State;

(i) National unity and territorial integrity of States, within the framework of Central American integration; and

(j) Respect for the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS).

Its additional objectives are:

(a) To establish an early warning preventive mechanism in relation to threats to any category of security and a permanent programme of confidence-building measures among the States of the Central American region;

(b) To continue efforts to establish a reasonable balance of military and public security forces in accordance with the internal and external situation of each State Party, the conditions in Central America and decisions taken by the civilian authorities of the democratically elected Governments of the Parties;

(c) To establish a Central American Security Information and Communications Mechanism;

(d) To establish or strengthen the Central American mechanisms for the peaceful settlement of disputes in accordance with the provisions of the Treaty;

(e) To coordinate the different types of cooperation, at the regional level, with international efforts to maintain and restore international peace and security; and

(f) To promote the legal security of the borders of the signatory States of the Treaty through delimitations, demarcations and the solution of pending territorial disputes, as appropriate, and to ensure the joint defence of the territorial, cultural and ecological heritage of Central America, in accordance with the mechanisms of international law.

Central America was responsible for creating new synthesis of security that may be unprecedented in modern history, as reflected in the Framework Treaty on Democratic Security in Central America. Its influence has been felt in the OAS.

The Framework Treaty on Democratic Security supports the assumption of peace rather than the assumption of war and creates a whole system of cooperation, integration and prevention of potential conflicts, both within societies and from outside them, which is one of its major innovations.

This integration and security Treaty makes the leap from military security to human security; defensive security is transformed into cooperative and associative security. The concept of security based on the people and the human being gains strength over the traditional concept of defence based on territory and borders.

It is very important to note that a national security model according to domestic and local parameters has given way to a subregional security model with the integration process itself, encompassing the seven member countries of the Central American Integration System (SICA), as its expanded platform and field of action.

The Declaration on Security in the Americas, adopted by the Special Conference on Security held in Mexico City on 27 and 28 October 2003, stated that "security threats, concerns, and other challenges in the hemispheric context are of diverse nature and multidimensional in scope, and the traditional concept and approach should be expanded to encompass new and non-traditional threats ..."

We believe that the fundamental principles and objectives that form the basis of this Democratic Security Model in Central America are worthy of being adapted, introduced and implemented in other regions or subregions.